PATENT CASE NAME/NO. 977-001 (RIC 00-031) RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED 12/24/2003 (09/779,092)

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the first paragraph in the Specification with the following amended paragraph:

This is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/220,733 filed on December 24, 1998, the content of which is relied upon and incorporated herein by reference in its entirety, and the benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 is hereby claimed. This application is also related to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [[_____]]09/778,186 filed on February 7, 2001, a "Method and System for Evaluating the Quality of Packet Switched Voice Signals" by William Christopher Hardy, Attorney Docket No. RIC98014P1.